

R H E T O R I C

Vol. 3, No. 9

Feb. 14, 1977

Demolition due in April

Mara sets dorm construction dates

By BEVERLY CRONIN

"Assuming plans are on target, demolition of homes for the construction of the dormitory should begin by early April," said Dr. Vincent J. Mara, FSC president.

The basic foundation and structure of the apartment-style dormitory designed to house 192 students should be completed before next winter. The construction site is along Cedar and Highland Streets.

Press Release

In a statement to the press dated Jan. 28, 1977 Mara said, "There has been much publicity from a variety of public officials concerning land taking by FSC during the past few months. During this same period, I have made no public pronouncements, preferring to work on the issue in a quiet professional manner. Statements in the press this week, however, now require that I issue a reply in behalf of the college."

Facts

The press release went on to enumerate six facts supportive to the building plans and favorable to the image of the College.

"Fact one is that the College, to answer the need for a new residence hall, purchased land in such a way as to dislocate the fewest number of families and remove the least tax dollars from the city."

"Fact two is that the College needs to help the City by doing something to improve the terrible parking problems at the campus." President Mara has obtained \$300,000 to purchase and \$150,000 to prepare land for new parking spaces through Capital Outlay legislation.

Mara said, "The mayor and I agree that the block bounded by Snow and North Streets would be the most logical place for this parking because it would mean the smallest loss to the City in tax revenue."

Fact three concerns the \$7 million coming to Fitchburg in a variety of grants. As the press release states "To try and use the College as a scapegoat in the issue of obtaining these funds is damaging to both the City and the College, and is creating unfair, and unjust criticism of the College."

Fact four states that the College is an important economic institution in Fitchburg. FSC is the fourth largest employer with a payroll of over \$6 million. There are over 3,400 students annually who represent a considerable portion of consumers in Fitchburg. Also, in lieu of taxes, the state pays Fitchburg over \$80,000 for use of College land.

Fact five states that "The College helps the City by making its enormously valuable educational resources available

in many ways to the community."

"Fact six is that FSC is one of the major assets of the City."

Mayor Bray

Mayor Hedley Bray has made no official announcement to explain his withdrawal of op-

position to College building plans.

In a query to the Mayors office the reply was "The Mayor is not responding on that issue."



RHETORIC'S NEWEST APPLICANT for Editor-In-Chief next year.

(Rhetoric Photo by Paul D'Alessandro)

Valentine Day

How did it all begin?

By BEVERLY CRONIN
and LINDA MASON

The observance of St. Valentine's Day is an ancient custom the origins of which are confusing, somewhat contradictory, but always interesting. St. Valentine's Day is a sentimental holiday for celebrating the many forms of love.

Whether you observe St. Valentine's Day by sending greetings, calling birds, or picking names out of urns you can be assured that you are upholding a tradition; one of the many traditions that dates back centuries to the exciting dynamic days of pre-Christian Rome.

Misnomer of Sorts

Actually the name "St. Valentine's Day" is a misnomer of sorts. The festivities and lovemaking prolific on St. Valentine's Day are apparently not directly related to any real saint. But the obscure association could be

attributed to mere coincidence, or be the result of a missing link, which renders the connection somewhat confusing.

As clearly as can be discerned the custom of exchanging Valentine greetings with members of the opposite sex has its earliest roots in the pagan Roman festival of the Lupercalia.

Lupercalia

The feast of the Lupercalia was a pre-Christian Roman festival celebrated on Feb. 15 in honor of Pan and Juno, the goddess of marriage, to celebrate fertility. Legend has it that names of girls were mixed together in an urn. The boys drew these names out of the urn and were paired off to celebrate the day.

The Romans spread their culture far and wide. Obviously the Romans did not introduce the idea of mating to the English, though they did introduce the custom of the Lupercalia feast. However, the English appeared

to be mortified by paganism which they thought the Romans represented. So to make the idea of the feast more amenable to the English church, the feast was transferred to what was their feast of St. Valentine.

Way back in the olden days of England and Scotland, around the time of Chaucer, each young bachelor and maid received by lot one of the opposite sex as Valentine for the year. It was a type of mock betrothal, and was marked by the giving of presents.

Bird Mating

One source suggests that the origin of St. Valentine's Day festivities grew out of the old notion that on this day birds first chose their mates, and it apparently seemed natural to couple humans during the same season.

Several saints of this name were venerated on Feb. 14, but the connections are flimsy. However, on Feb. 14, 270 A.D. St.

See VALENTINE, Page 2

SGA fee increase proposed

COMMENT ON THE NEWS

By BILL MacMILLAN

If the SGA has one distinguishable characteristic as a group it has got to be unanimity. Although no unrelated students showed up, the council was fully present. This enabled the council to unanimously pass a motion to add a seat on the council for the Thunderbird Motel dormitory president Susan Ballou, after only 45 minutes of discussion.

It is generally agreed that it is good no student observers show up, since the lack of their questions tends to cut down on the length of the meeting.

Unfortunately for interested students, they missed watching the council unanimously approve a motion to raise the student activity fee from \$30 dollars a year to \$35 dollars a year. That does not mean that you will necessarily be paying the increase. The motion to raise the fee will be a referendum question on the next student government election ballot. The result of the voting will determine whether or not the SGA will present the increase proposal to the administration to vote on.

The added revenue will benefit several organizations. The clubs ask for twice as much money as they get every year. The Programs Committee; the Rhetoric, SGA, and committees either were cut back this year or exist on rapidly diminishing budgets.

We have existed on a 30 dollar per student revenue since 1964. The increase will change our status at Fitchburg from having the lowest student activity fee to an average fee, some schools pay as much as 50 dollars a year.

It seems to be an advantageous increase for those who participated in school activities and a bargain at only \$2.50 a semester.

What will CC pact bring?

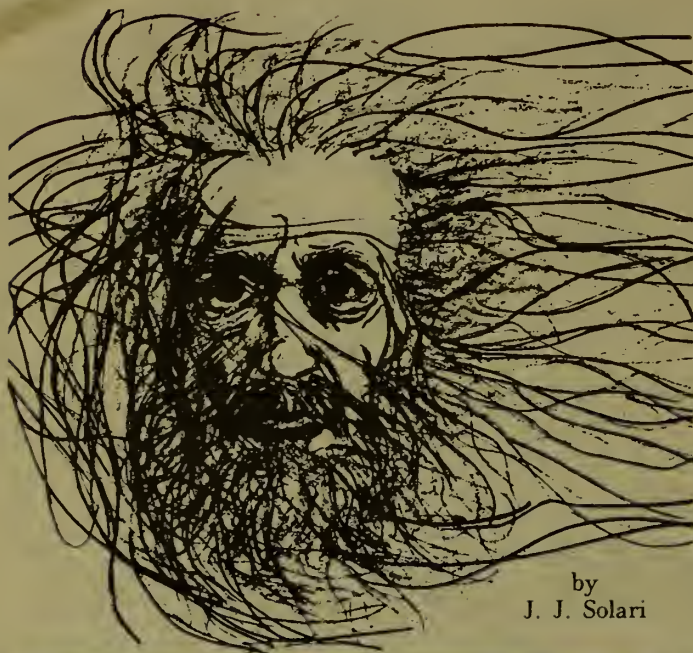
By BERNIE SCHULTZ

State Community College faculty members recently averted a strike by reaching a contract settlement. The question is: will Fitchburg State College and other State College faculties settle soon?

Dr. Alan Goldman, President of the FSC Faculty Union, says that he personally would be pleased with a pact similar to that received by the community colleges. The Community College faculty received all that the State

College faculty had been offered by their trustees to date (\$850) plus an additional \$400 to \$500 augmenting their base salary through an incremental system. (In this incremental system, each step denotes a pay increase.) Additionally, the Community College faculty will receive an automatic \$400-\$500 raise every year as long as the state appropriates the money.

See PACT, Page 2



by
J. J. Solari

★ Valentine

Continued from Page 1

Valentine was martyred for going against Roman law in uniting lovers in secret marriages. Some say that St. Valentine was the first saint whose name was substituted for a pagan festival, and then the date was changed to the anniversary of his martyrdom.

All these quaint old customs have fizzled out through the years. Now Valentine Day has become commercialized and is marked with the merchandising of Valentine Day cards, presents, and candy all begging to be bought promising to make people happy.

Does anyone realize that these materialisms are not the key to happiness? Sure we do. So spread that St. Valentine's Day loving all around, not just on Feb. 14. Concentrate on every single minute of every hour of every day and you may be surprised at how happy and good you will feel and how happy and good you will make others feel.

Happy St. Valentine's Day, everyone!

POLICY ON LETTERS

Letters must be brief and signed. Any unsigned letter will not be printed.

The Editorial Board reserves the right to withhold a letter. There is no limit to the number of letters that may appear in a year. However, letters will be weighed for their importance due to a lack of space.

★ Pact bring?

Continued from Page 1

Goldman is quick to add that the Executive Board of the FSC Faculty Union has the authority to strike (voted on by its faculty members.) Presently though, faculty contract negotiations continue.

One senior faculty member offered his appraisal of the Community College faculty pact. When queried as to whether he would accept the Community College contract terms, he replied that "it might be difficult to sell, but we'll try."

Comment and Opinion

Planning, placement center provides service on careers

The Career Planning and Placement Center provides programs and services to Fitchburg State College Undergraduate and Graduate students and alumni in the areas of career selection, student development, college success, and employment after graduation.

SERVICES

- Mailing Placement Credentials to employers
- Counseling and Career Planning
- Scheduling On-Campus interviews with employers
- Testing of Career interests, work values, personal development, reading, etc.

PROGRAMS

- Workshops and Seminars in resume writing, job search planning, interviewing, etc.
- Study Skills Improvement
- Preparing for examinations
- Memory Improvement
- Decision-Making Skills improvement

RESOURCES

- Job bank listing vacancies in many career areas
- Extensive career information
- Directories of public and private schools
- Information about employers; local, national and international
- Test library for student and faculty research
- Graduate school catalogs and bulletins
- Summer and part-time job lists

HOURS & LOCATION

- 8:30-5:00, Monday Through Friday
- Third Floor - Edgerly School Building

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FSC policy on discrimination

Fitchburg State College is required by federal law, (Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972), to publicly reaffirm its policy of non discrimination on the basis of sex in the educational programs or activities which it operates, or in the employment of staff members. The policy states:

Fitchburg State College's policy prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, sex, religion, age, color, creed, national origin, marital or parental status, or handicap in the recruitment and admission of students, the

recruitment and employment of faculty and staff, or the operation of any of its programs and activities, as specified by federal and state laws and regulations. Inquiries concerning the application of or compliance with the laws and regulations prohibiting such discrimination should be addressed to Dr. Thomas Coates, who I have designated Title IX Coordinator, or to the Director of the United States Office for Civil Rights.

Vincent J. Mara, President
Fitchburg State College

Applications

Are Being
Accepted For
Literary &
Technical

Editor of
Scrimshaw
Through Feb. 23.
Interested Persons
Can Pick Up Ap-
plications In the
S.G.A. Office and
At The Information
Desk.



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Column (2 1/2 x 2)	\$5.00



From
the
Corner
Office

Games room is relocated

By LINDA MASON

The Games Room formerly located in room B19 of the Campus Center has relocated on the ground floor in the loer area. A Craft Center now occupies the former location.

This "new" spacious games room recently opened its doors on Saturday, January 29, 1977 during the Apathy Weekend ceremonies. Featured on "Apathy Eve" in the new games room were the FSC Superstars, players from various on-campus organizations. This event served to highlight the opening of the new room.

Along with additional games the new games room awaits the arrival of equipment for outdoor winter and summer sports. In the

category of games, awaited is the arrival of one additional pinball machine, there are now six; two additional billiard tables, for a total of four and a fourth new table tennis set. Also soon to be made available to students are skiis and toboggans. Presently snowshoes are available and for a new season rapidly on its way canoes, kayaks and camping equipment will be on hand. A partitioned area in the new games room will serve as storage space for the equipment.

The 25 cent fee for pool and table soccer has been abolished; these games are now being offered free of charge. The pinball and air hockey games remain 25 cents. All in all, the new games room seems to play host to quite a bit of entertainment and recreational activity.

Our parking situation

In an earlier column I mentioned that I would discuss in the RHETORIC the Fitchburg State College parking situation. This is a troublesome area. I hope that this column will provide some information for all that read it as we continue to deal with this issue.

Last spring, it became possible to get some State Capital Outlay Funds set aside for parking help here at Fitchburg. We have money for the purchase of land and monies for the preparation of that land (black top and landscaping) to provide for parking lots which we hope will be reasonable in their physical appearance for our neighborhood. This investment will be the first major involvement of the college in parking for some years, and we are happy to begin.

Of course, this effort now under way will not come close to the total solution of our parking situation. When I came to the campus a year ago, there were about 500 spaces available for our total community-students, faculty, and staff. With luck, monies that we will now be spending, will come close to increasing that parking space by a good 60 per cent, but even as we move from 500 to 800 parking spaces, we will still require additional efforts in finding new spots in the years ahead. The location of the college and the expense involved in building highrise parking facilities leaves us with only one way to proceed for other parking, and that is gradually to acquire more land as it becomes available to the college and for parking.

There is to be a canvass of the campus this semester to determine what level of support there is for establishing a larger fee for parking. The purpose of this survey is to determine the willingness of the members of our community to pay additional monies in the hope of increasing our parking space availability. We were fortunate indeed to get the support to provide the money that we are using this spring for our parking increases, but we cannot expect this kind of support on a regular basis from the Legislature. It does seem to me that if we wish to have more and better parking, we will all have to contribute to the expense of the operation and maintenance of the present parking lots and in the acquisition of land for new parking lots.

I anticipate that some people will be enthusiastic about suggesting an increased fee because they will see the possibilities of a better opportunity for safe parking reasonably near to their college classroom and other activities. Others in the community will be opposed to any fee as most of us oppose any new increase in taxation direct or indirect.

The idea is to place enough income into a parking trust to be used to make certain that the present lots are maintained in some attractive way, while at the same time being able to set aside money to buy more land for future parking development. Of course, this will take time and some may feel reluctant to support an increased fee if new land does not come on board until they have left the institution. I remind the reader that parking spaces currently available have made our lives more tolerable. The Commonwealth has provided these spaces, but in terms of the future it appears that the Commonwealth is increasingly less willing to consider the expenditure of monies for this kind of thing. It will fall upon us to react as favorably as we can toward helping ourselves alleviate this problem.

I welcome campus reaction to this matter. Perhaps through letters to the Editor in the RHETORIC or personal comments to me; and perhaps visits to my office during the Open House period to discuss this issue in greater detail. We will have to make a decision as to whether we want to improve this situation and put the necessary money from our own pockets behind that improvement or to settle for what we have. We will have to make this decision soon in order to begin to develop a fund for such improvement if indeed we decide that this is in the best interest of the College.

I think it is important to remember that Fitchburg State College is a community of people of similar interests. We are at the same time set within a larger community, the City of Fitchburg. We must keep in mind that we have neighbors and it is imperative that the college and its neighbors get along well together. The present parking situation at the College tends to create unnecessary tension with neighborhood and public officials who feel that the College is insensitive to the people about us. It is for this reason that we must provide a fee structure with sufficient monies to gradually acquire more land for parking. I think that this is a relatively slow process but that it will serve the best interests of all of us in the long run.

... And speaking of apathy

By BRIDGET M. HUGHES

Do you attend any on-campus events? Do you have any ideas for getting students and faculty more involved in on-campus activities? These questions were asked on surveys randomly distributed at the end of last semester to both faculty and students.

Only 250 surveys were distributed to students, and thirty to faculty. Of these a mere eleven were returned from students, four from the faculty. These figures have their own irony in that the surveys were about activities interest at Fitchburg State.

The four faculty members had all taught at other colleges. The general consensus was that there is a certain feeling of apathy with both students and faculty everywhere.

Weekends

On all surveys there was a strong recommendation for more weekend activities. One Junior girl suggested that the school rent the ice at the Wallace Civic Center and have buses every half hour from the school. This suggestion is comparable to the way parties are run at Thumpers.

Dr. Neil Anderson of the Biology Department commented that our college should have an Outing Club and he would consider being advisor.

Most of the students and faculty also agreed that in the past two years the amount of people attending and the amount of FSC sponsored activities have increased. This may be due to the fact that we now have a Campus Center and also that the Programs Committee is expanding its services, i.e. live Pub entertainment, Coffeehouses, etc.

Publicity

People also suggested that more and better publicity be used. A few of the commuters stated that they do not always see notices for activities until the day they are scheduled. They suggested a tentative semester schedule (like the Campus Center Calendar) be given to each student at the beginning of the semester so there would be some idea of events to come. At least then people would be more aware of what is scheduled, and would be looking forward to the functions.

We as students can not sit back and let the same people plan our activities. There is plenty to do, but without more suggestions and more help things will improve --

slowly. If students would put their complaints into con-

structive criticism, and get involved even slightly, FSC would not be the "suitcase college" that some people call it because of the

massive evacuation of people on Fridays' and sometimes Thursday afternoons.

As one survey mentioned, "activities shouldn't be initiated and planned by faculty only, as students, WE are the masters of our own fate." How true.



Meet Ann Caron

By TONY GANNON

This is part of a series of articles about our SGA officials at Fitchburg State College.

ANN CARON

Ann Caron is a senior class member and has been studying in the Special Education field for the past three years.

After graduating from Lowell High School in 1973 where she was a yearbook staff member, she chose FSC over Westfield State, Lowell University and Boston University because of their Special Education background.

She is an avid sports fan at FSC where she can be found at just about all the sporting events, though she claims her two favorites are basketball and soccer (not primarily in that order!).

Ann is a Senior Class Representative, on the student welfare committee and is chairperson of the scholarship committee.

Upon graduation from FSC she would like to be a resource room teacher or a rehabilitation counselor.

Personally speaking

Curly, B.B.
Where have you been hiding.
Affectionately,
Your 200 year girl

To the F.U.B.A.R.S
We'll hustle with you anytime.
The Cedar St. Philos

Opel Annie
You upstart! I still love you
Mondo

Happy Valentine's Day to all Polocks!
From: One Kielbasa Kid

If you will be my concubine,
I will be your Valentine.
--Etaoin

Bob Mewis, better lose that gut. You're
starting to look like a Panther. An observer

To the Fenwicks,
Thank you for your warm-friendly
atmosphere at your all-college parties.
It's greatly appreciated. Keep up the
good work!
The Students Bodies

V. Thank you for the...for the what...for
the Happy Cupid Day.
R.

Dear Father Jim
I look forward to receiving that 4.0 that
you promised me, I hope you enjoyed the
extra credit oral presentation I did for
you in your office after hours.
Love Diana

Mike Grenier,
Thank you for the other night hon.
Everything I read about was true!
Come back again, even after you are
married.
Juicily, Loose Lucy

Dear Woody,
I'd love to get into your wing tips
Love, Lydia

To the Pub staff,
Have the happiest Valentine's Day
ever.
F.S.C. Student Body

Dear Phil,
Do you really go to this school?
Happy Valentines day.
I.U. Management

Dear Kathy
"There's no need for an outpouring of
words to explain oneself to a friend.
Friends understand each other's
thoughts even before they are spoken."
S.P. Schultz
Happy Valentine's Day to the best
roommate anyone could ever have.
Love Me

To Carolyn and Denise,
To you are two of the loveliest
that ever walked the earth.

Dear Cosgrove,
Thank you for a wonderful first semester. I
thoroughly enjoy working in the office next
to yours. Here's hoping that you never spot
my peep-hole.
Sincerely, Dean Pilecki

Sharon,
Thanks for the fun last March. Don't
be embarrassed you were wonderful.
Big Nose

Connie,
I always thought your name was Joanne.
Sorry, confused

Bulldog,
Your pants are too tight.
Love, Martha

Gregg Malone,
Anytime you'd like another gum job,
just come again or should I say drop by.
Love, Nadia Clarke

To Falso in the Resident's Caf:
Have another ice cream cone!
I.U. Management

Have a Happy Val. Day John S. and Ron
S. from Cedar St.
"Love the girls"

Dear Kathy
"There's no need for an outpouring of
words to explain oneself to a friend.
Friends understand each other's
thoughts even before they are spoken."
S.P. Schultz
Happy Valentine's Day to the best
roommate anyone could ever have.
Love Me

K.N. would like E.B. to be his valentine.
What are you waiting for
E.B.

Happy Valentine's Day Skie, I miss the
slopes every night.
Love, A Beginner

Boboe,
Happy Valentine's Day
Mary Natick

To CR7 and CL7:
Happy Valentine's Day!
With love, Auntie & Whoomie

John,
Thanks for all the hard work you've
done and the dedication you've shown.
Sec.

To the Wondrous "A"
May Anne be as lovable as popular
Let Robin be always sincere,
With Mary ever so joyful,
And best wishes to Sue
Happy-be-you-all

ME

Hogan,
For all that you've done,
And all that you will do
I give you love and thanks
On Valentine's Day and always,
From me to you.
Rino's room-mate

Dave,
All my love to you and the wife.
Your roommate

To J.H.
Everyday the sun rises on your smile
and I am slightly more enlightened by it.
From S.B.

Meg

Happy Valentine's Day
Harry to

Jane, you're beautiful! When can I meet
you in the weight room again?
Ron, the Hulk

I'll always love you,
Happy Valentine's Day.
A Special Friend.

Barbara,
You'll just love Penn. Happy Valen-
tine's Day.
Your roommate

Monkey Lady:
I'm madly in love with you why don't
you ever smile and say hello? Still Passionate

Sandy,
You are my special valentine, and I
am yours.
Love, Ronnie

greg smith, you're thuck a thweet guy,
thexy, and thuckulent looking.
wannha thuck?

Sweeney,
Does Catherine really love Heath-
cliff?
Signed - Bronte

Short shots

WHAT IS A "PYG"?

The statement has been made, quite accurately, that the Greeks had a word for everything; for example:

Ecdysiast - a strip-teaser (actually coined by H. L. Mencken from ecdysis, shedding of outer layer, as a snake or insect).

Callipygian: Beautiful, well-formed rear end.

Steatopygian: Fat rear end.

Statistics on distribution of the last two terms on campus are not currently available; however, a random visual study is being made. A quality-quantity standard control curve is being plotted, as are minimum standards.

The distribution curve is a challenge to the calculating mind. A study in depth is being made. Due to subjective skewing, end results will reflect rounded figures.

EDUCATIONAL GOALS

It is a poor reflection on the status quo when the job market is poor for educators and good for social workers.

BIRTH CONTROL

Birth control is easy; controlling them after they are born is Herculean.

OWED TO THE MED TECHS

Tell me not of mournful numbers, Life is but an M. T. dream.

SPRING IS 'CUMEN IN

When the mattress goes flying out the window, can spring be far behind?

A white historian looks at 'Roots' presentation

By JOHN P. CLARK

The greatest tragedy in American history was slavery, and it was national in nature. Slavery in all of its ugly reality was brought back to millions of Americans recently when ABC presented its week-long drama of Alex Haley's ROOTS.

A small army of black and white "stars" presented a compelling portrait of what slavery was really like and it captured the largest audience in TV history—some 130 million Americans saw all or part of the series.

Why was ROOTS so compelling to so many Americans? It was entertaining in that sense of the term. There was slave catching, slave mutilation, whipping of slaves, selling of slaves, breaking up of slave families, raping of slave girls by whites, and terror inflicted on blacks during Reconstruction by brutal whites.

When ABC had approached the great corporations who like to sponsor such programs for the public image it conveys, the network was turned down because, "No one would want to see the history of a black slave family!" It is to the credit of ABC that it went ahead and gambled on putting the series on each night for a week with smaller sponsors.

Forgotten Past

Kunta Kinte, the 15-year-old boy who was stolen away from his village by slavers around 1766, observed to his slave friend Fiddler, after being in America for a time, that it was sad that all the American born Negroes had

forgotten about their African past. He was resolved not to forget his and he passed this determination down to his daughter who passed it on to her descendants as well.

But one aspect of America that is true for all of us is that the road to success means forgetting our foreign past and learning English and American manners, and in this fashion most of us have forgotten our own roots. It was this knowledge, that a person today could trace his family tree back to an obscure African village where his great-great-great-grandfather was still remembered in the oral history of the village, that was so exciting.

How True?

From a historical view, how true was the history portrayed in ROOTS? First, we must realize that it represents a black man's view of slavery. Second, that the series simplified history; all whites were black-hearted villains and all blacks were noble. There is always a danger in simplifying history, for we never find all men evil or all men good. Drawing the characters in ROOTS with all the harshness of an 1859 Abolitionist tract on the evils of slavery makes for interesting television, but not necessarily truthful history.

We can point to the fact that almost all of the slave-catching in Africa was carried on by blacks or Arabs. Often an African king, when a slaver was in port, would sell members of his own tribe to make up the cargo. Not all slave masters were as cruel as those portrayed in the series, but many were cruel enough. Over a quarter of a million blacks were

free in the South in 1860 and some owned slaves themselves and some even volunteered to fight for the Confederacy when the Civil War began.

Abolitionists

Even after making these modifications, one still has to confess that slavery was inhuman and as bad as ROOTS pictured. While the abolition movement began as early as 1688 with the Quakers in Pennsylvania, strong organized abolitionist groups did not appear until the 1830's, and as late as 1860 there were still some slaves in New Jersey. Most abolitionists, while admitting that slavery was immoral, refused to admit that blacks had any rights equal to those of a white person! It is best to keep in mind that slaves were regarded legally as occupying a position between cattle and humans.

One reason why whites were opposed to black education is that if blacks learned to read and write, the whole philosophical structure on which slavery was based would be undermined. With this background it is important to view ROOTS as an attempt to right the impressions assumed by generations of racists North and South.

As Alex Haley has said so many times, the time for anger and shame have long since passed. For those of us of the present the challenge offered by ROOTS is to make sure that better racial relations develop in this country in the future. By giving us a better knowledge of what slavery was like, ROOTS improves our historical knowledge so that we can improve the future.

'Black Velvet Girl' worth raving about

A Rhetoric Review

By ZAP

I know, I know what you're thinking -- not another obscure writer. But you know and trust all of the old stand-bys. Let's have some fresh, new blood in this literature action. Lately I've been reading virtually unknown 'just starting - outers' or long-time ignored authors. And I've found that -- as a rule -- two out of three of these new books are not only enjoyable and a refreshing change from the well-known masters, but worth raving about. (Raving is just one of my endless idiosyncrasies...)

At any rate, that's what I'm doing -- raving about C.E. Poverman's first book: "The Black Velvet Girl."

First I'll tell you about his style that which I feel is largely a part of Poverman's success. He succeeded in totally captivating me; I couldn't put the book down; thirteen short stories at one sitting. I became addicted to the naturalness and sensitivity of his writing -- it's almost poetic at times -- added to the fact that his style is as contemporary and innovative as it is down to earth.

Composite

Allow me to put that paradoxical paragraph into other words and shed my dimly experienced light on the subject. The three names that come to mind when I think of Poverman are Hemingway, Updike, and a flair of Salinger. Can you imagine these three men rolled into one? Of course not! Even if you could, you wouldn't get C. E. Poverman -- because he's Poverman, not exactly like anyone else, new and ... very good.

Now I'll explain.

Much of 'Black Velvet' is written in the first person -- a device through which the reader is able to become the main character; if he/she feels so inclined. Through the strength in his imagery, Poverman will envelop all of your senses. Thus

another aid for your participation in his adventures.

On these adventures Poverman will take you to Hawaii, the Far East, Colorado, and back again to New England. Lending realism with explanations of the different cultures and bits of the language as you travel.

Each story starts out normal enough -- you find out where you are, who the narrator is, and begin to get a feel for what the story's going to be about. But it's not long before the inevitable is washed away and either something outrageous is happening to the narrator or he's up to some craziness himself.

In one story a mystified, volunteer social-worker rides a bicycle across the arid plains of India, and in the next a Robin Hood type leaps gracefully from balcony to balcony of a modern Hawaiian high-rise. Naturally there will be the exotic dancer, misunderstood husband, and Chinese syndicate-hunted lover effects -- naturally, only if you're reading Poverman.

The stories are all developed quickly -- you're in immediately, no extraneous detail -- as otherwise would detract from the author's brisk, witty style.

Quite often a brief stream-of-consciousness is employed -- let's face it, there's so much action in these tales that even the writer needs a breather to think things out. The personal touch is again revealed, along with another hint of reality.

Most of the stories are treated with an anecdotal quality. But there are some thoughtful and seemingly innocent, didactic accounts of some rather uncomfortable, or distressing experiences dealt with in an unsensational manner.

I will conclude in saying that C.E. Poverman's collection of short fiction is funny, enjoyable, sensitive, different, and worth reading twice...

CARRY ON, BUZZARD!

Consumer's rights listed

By BEVERLY CRONIN

Everyone is concerned with protecting their rights. Like a contagious disease the obsession with individual rights is foremost in many minds.

People have rights as blacks, whites, males, females, young, old, Irish, Italian, students, ad infinitum. Each right is peculiar to its own, except for one. All as consumers have specific rights as consumers.

These rights were enumerated by John F. Kennedy in 1962 in a special consumer message to Congress. They were, in many ways, the beginning of the consumer movement which is still going strong today.

Consumers Rights

In Kennedy's message he announced the following as the four major rights of consumers:

- The right to safety protects against the marketing of goods which are hazardous to health of life.

- The right to be informed is to be protected against fraudulent, deceitful, or grossly misleading advertising, information about products, or labeling and to be given the facts needed to make an informed choice in the marketplace.

- The right to choose is to have, wherever possible, access to a variety of goods and services at competitive prices; and in industries that are not competitive but are government regulated to be assured of satisfactory quality and service at fair prices.

- The right to be heard is to be assured that consumer interests will receive a full and sympathetic consideration by the government and in the formulation of governmental policy, and that existing consumer laws will be enforced.

Quite a powerful list indeed. Since the voicing of these rights there has been a myriad of laws enacted and agencies formed all in the vested interests of consumers.

"You Can Get Results"

"A Manual for Resolving Consumer Complaints" entitled "You Can Get Results" compiled by the Consumers' Council of Massachusetts suggests the following steps when seeking a solution to a problem.

1. Know all the relevant facts. This includes the date of the transaction, a description of the article or service, any model numbers, brand names, warranties, original advertisement, correct name and address of stores or manufacturer, notes on the problem, copies of all relevant documents, and notes on all contact made with manufacturer or merchandiser and what transpired at each session.

2. Armed with these resources the next step is to contact the merchant. Understandably, merchants are not always receptive to consumer complaints, therefore, they must be dealt with in a firm and aggressive but reasonable manner.

3. A business letter should be sent to the merchant enumerating what has been agreed or not agreed upon with a copy sent to the attorney general and appropriate regulatory agencies.

4. At this point it may be necessary to enlist the help of an agency such as the Massachusetts Consumer's Council, a local consumer agency, or the attorney general's Consumer Protection Division.

5. If no results have been achieved by now the groups listed above should be able to provide direction. The business can be sued and there are also many consumer protection laws which are too numerous and complicated to list here.

6. Businesses which engage in deceptive practices should be exposed. Publicity of merchants who are notorious for deceiving the public would hopefully precipitate some sort of change in policy.

Guild Players have repertoire, will travel

By BEVERLY CRONIN

An old church for a playhouse, a multi-talented group of actors, and a professional's love of theater and acting all contribute to the success of the Lancaster Guild Players.

The Guild Players were founded in 1971 by David Paul Simon and Sandra Kay Will. Their initial endeavor was to provide original dramatic experiences in the classroom. However, as the company grew in productions, vision, and membership they broadened their intent and went outside of the schools to include community performances.

David Paul Simon, company director explained, "Our design is to create a self-sufficient theater company seeking to develop an educational resource for schools in Worcester County, as well as, a community theater to service surrounding communities."

Old Church

The Playhouse is the Old Methodist Church in the center of Lunenburg. Built in 1829, the church-turned-playhouse has beautiful stained-glass windows, the original pews still in place, and a nice big stage.



The combination of these factors all work to create a certain mellow and calm setting conducive to enhancing each performance by fostering a distinct communal and artistic atmosphere.

The Guild Players have had the Playhouse, which is designed for clear visibility and strong sound, since March of 1976. Though much work remains to be done before the building will satisfy the ultimate plans of the group, the Playhouse is in good repair and is comfortable.

The Guild Players have been in Lancaster since October 1975. The diverse talents of the six members of the Guild enable them to do a large portion of their carpentry work, costume construction and design, writing, and artistic work.

Upcoming Productions

Upcoming productions include "Zoo Story" by Edward Albee, "This Property is Condemned," by Tennessee Williams, and "Darrow," an original monologue.

"Darrow," a one-man show written by David Paul Simon, illuminates the high points of this great trial lawyers career. The show is reminiscent of America and the man in his time, replete with interior dialogue, colorful characterization, high drama.

Performances of "Zoo Story" and "This Property is Condemned" are set for Feb. 18 and 19 at 8 p.m. Tickets can be bought at the door.

In-verse

THE RAIN WAS...

The rain was born one day;
As little droplets began to fall.
The rain was here to stay;
As little droplets hit the wall.
The rain was strong and wet;
As little droplets soaked my brow.
The clouds had hid the sun;
As massive flooding killed my cow.
The rain destroyed my crop;
As little droplets fell.
When the rain die one day;
The church had rung its bell.
Yes, it's true the rain has stopped.
But my life has turned to hell.
My land with mud has been topped;
The rain was meant to excel.

Herr Land

AN AVERAGE DAY!

I lost my job. Oh shit.
What am I gonna do.
My bills are all unpaid
and I'm a - sittin - feelin blue.

I write a letter home last night to
say that I is broke.
I tell my roommates all my
gripes as we sit around and toak.

I lost my roommate's girlfriend
(laugh) and I lost my room-
mate, too.
I'm losing ever-thing I got.
Oh shit what can I do.
Oh, shit what can I do.

I lost my 2 point 28 cume
Oh cume you went away.
It's down to 1 point 389
And I can't wait for May.
Oh shit what can I do.
My courses all been cancelled,
don't classes start at eight!?!
And I don't matter what they say
this place ain't all that great.
Oh

Shit

What

Sir Francis Walters
Alias
Robert M. Gagne
ODE TO APATHY

Apathy, our will you destroy,
You leave untouched no one, girl
or boy.
Ambition you replace with
inertia,
And for this we curse ya.
Our resolves to study you throw
aside,
And since it is easier, with Torpor
we bide.
But our resolves must be
strengthened,
Or else our college days will be
lengthened.

Oh Apathy, thou beast of beasts,
Of our perseverance you make
feasts.
Unless this demon we can
overthrow,
Our futures we will never know.

At last, sweet bliss! We have
overcome
The greatest bane of collegedom.
So now we are studying, every
one.
But to our dismay we find,
That Apathy was much more fun.

Kimberlee Brown

Kimberlee Brown

A SAD LOSS

Pondering
upon the vastness
and beauty
of our world,
I realize that
My children's children
may never experience
the wonder that I feel.

It is sad that we do not
have enough
respect
for the
green, dappled with
sunlight world of
the forest,
for the
heaving blue-and-white
ocean,
for the
sometimes blue
sky,
and the
clear fresh
winds.

It is sad
that we do not
care enough
to put
the trees,
the oceans,
and
the skies
before all things--
to be protected
and
cherished.



A soap for all reasons

by DAN WEITZNER

The 12-cylinder Mozzarella-Capone deCoupage de Ville roared down the road past the environs and flatirons of Fitchburg, its horn braying raucously. It was the economy model, manually operated radiator fan.

Our Candida had taken the wheel but its absence went unnoticed. They reached a fork in the road (Gorham's Camellia pattern), and, after flattening its tines, they turned into a side-street. The transformation was painless, as were the car's windows.

Candida was a shallow person, but this could not be noticed when she stood herself up. (Everyone else took turns standing her up, so this was her prerogative.) She wondered if she had remembered to water the horses and milk the cat.

They reached the Fitchburg Athenaeum, stood under the marquis (very tall aristocracy), and made a grand entree. (Such an entree would have been loved by Solomon Islanders (no relation to Solomon Goldfarb)). She entered the hall on Waldo's arm, a comfortable perch (perca flavescens) and swept the room with her eyes (long lashes helped).

Charged Up

In front of the pit stood statically the wiry conductor, who always gave her a charge. Their eyes met across the room (with a sharp click). Much like Sammy Davis and Moshe Dayan, they always saw eye-to-eye.

Luckily, she had been fore-warned, and to be fore-warned is to be fore-armed. This was not too traumatic as she was left with two lefts.

She was often beside herself with joy, a schizophrenic triad. She was a happy girl, tall and well-armed. I say tall because she used to pass by my window and I live on the third floor. I say well-armed because, in her double-breasted suit, she carried formidable 44's, as

well as a spandex double-barreled slingshot. Her fortifications, or breastworks, were of the highest caliber.

When she bathed, she bubbled with ecstasy; however, not all the bubbles were ecstasy. There was more than a suspicion of ignis flatus, especially when she performed her partridge (and mephitic) mimicry. She could even furnish continuo for Lawrence Welk. Her face was often flushed, but her broad shoulders would save her. She was worried because her Framingham sentence ended without a period.

Candida and Waldo scanned the program - Graffiti Grosso in de major, by Moe Zart (fl. 1785) (B. Oberhausen, d. Uterhosen) and his wife (deff. 1740). The repertoire included her favorite hymn, "Gladly, the Cross-Eyed Bear," the recitative "Warum hast du am dem Abortwand geschreiben?" motet K-mart 1.98, also motel Rte. 495 mit a minor allegra con imbroglia.

She backed into the fan which disaster and burped, "De profundis eructavi."

She then reached for her seat, which itched, humming Eddie Duchin's theme song, "The Love-Bug Will Bite You if You Don't Wash Out."

She was a strong women's lib advocate (libido, that is). Waldo was her counterpart, his theme being "Old Man Libber."

Spoken speech (as opposed to written speech) confounded her as she was prone to spoonerisms. (She was inclined to be prone randomly-Greensleeves, round-heels, and all that. The "round-heels" were not necessarily Cromwell contemporaries). Because of this she never discussed geodesic domes nor modern architecture.

She enjoyed reading "Great Expectorations," a story about a dog lover and his spitz.



RAY HAAKER showing his form in Kansas by breaking the tape for another win.

Track star motivated by will

BY BERNIE SCHULTZ
NEWS EDITOR

What motivates a Fitchburg State College athlete to excel? For track star Ray Haaker, it is a combination of fine coaching, the will to work, and a pretty fiancée.

Ray Haaker is a Fitchburg High School graduate (1973) who attended the University of Kansas for two years as an "impersonal number." A great athlete in high school, Ray, like so many other high caliber athletes across the country, was expected to fill the shoes of the great miler Jim Ryun at Kansas. Says Ray, "the track coach ruined a lot of athletes while they were adjusting. Some athletes even sought psychiatric help as a result."

As for mileage, the Kansas coach often pushed his charges to run 100 miles weekly. Haaker stuck it out for two years but disliked it immensely. Ray improved his times in those two

years. In any case, Ray would have trained diligently without the coach's prodding. Today, Haaker runs an average of 10 miles daily. His times have never been better.

Strategy

At FSC, Haaker points to Coach Jim Sheehan as the man responsible for his success and that of the team's. "Sheehan knows how to motivate guys, relates Haaker, "he's always talking strategy." Coach Sheehan also keeps tabs on all the other tracksters across the state and country. With their records in mind, Ray and his teammates know exactly what times are necessary to surpass those marks. It seems to be a big incentive for them.

Another factor motivating Haaker is his fiancée, Karen Melanson. Their engagement coincided with Haaker's return to athletic eligibility, approximately two weeks ago. Because Haaker has primarily been running on his own, Karen

has served as an inspiration to him.

In Ray Haaker's case, the final question must be: was it a difficult transition from the University of Kansas to Fitchburg State College? Apparently not. Says Ray, "there is nothing I could have achieved at KU (University of Kansas) that couldn't be achieved right here at FSC."

In-verse

IN THE END

In the end of the rain there's a rainbow;
From the beginning of the rain there's a drop;
In the beginning of life there's a hope;
And you're still hoping as life comes to a stop.

Beetle Bailey

**Teacher
is
the
best
Experience**

FSC baseball season nears

The FSC Baseball Campaign will be getting under way shortly with Head Coach Norman Carson expecting a productive year. The team has 13 well-groomed, experienced veterans returning from last year's 11-9 season.

The Falcons are picked to come in second in the Massachusetts State Conference. However, the players are not going to settle for second best to anybody as they

have started to work out on their own.

Freshmen should be reminded that once baseball starts, they should be in pretty good condition. At the fall meeting, the team was told to start working out. With players being in good condition, there will be less exercises and more fundamentals for the team to participate in.

Games room notices

Onokala, Costa win table tennis doubles

On January 25 and 26, preliminaries and finals were held in the men's table tennis doubles.

Enyi Onokala and Ken Costa defeated David Theodorowicz and Conrad Sack for the doubles championship. Cindy MacGullray defeated Catherine Cavanaugh for the woman's singles.

The finals of the men's singles were held Saturday, prior to the Superstars Competition; Enyi Onokala defeated Conrad Sack in a two out of three match for the championship. The winners of

these events have been invited to participate in the A.C.U.I. regional tournament at Southern Connecticut State College on February 25 and 26.

A chess tournament will be held Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, February 15, 16, and 17 in the special dining rooms of the Campus Center. Open to the campus community; students, faculty and administrators are invited to participate. This event is being sponsored by the Campus Center.

Sports Info

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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
	ST. VALENTINE'S DAY! Ticket sales begin today for Hypnotist JAMES MAPES at Information Desk 8 AM-4PM.	Chess Tournament: 7 pm, Campus Center Rooms B-26 & B27 MEN'S BASKETBALL: FSC vs. Boston State College 7:30 pm, Parkinson Gym	Chess Tournament: 7 pm, Campus Center Rooms B-26 & 27. FILM: "Echoes of Summer" with Jody Foster & Richard Harris. Campus Center Lecture Hall.FREE. 3:30 & 7:30 pm. POETRY READING: Fitchburg Art Museum featuring poets John McGrail & Mary Fell. 7:30 PM	Chess Tournament: 7 PM, Campus Center, Rm. B-26 & B-27 Organization Meeting of FSC Food Co-op, 1:30 pm, Rm. C-04 WOMEN'S BASKETBALL: FSC vs. Boston State, 7 PM. MEN'S HOCKEY: FSC vs. Wesleyan University, 7:15 PM PUB: "Smith Bros." 8 PM	WOMEN'S JV BASKETBALL: FSC vs. Suffolk University 6:30 PM, Parkinson Gym Campus Center will close at... 6 PM today....	CAMPUS CENTER CLOSED ALL DAY....
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
CAMPUS CENTER CLOSED ALL DAY....	HOLIDAY: No Classes WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY CAMPUS CENTER RE-OPENS TODAY.....2PM 'till Midnight	Women's JV Basketball: FSC vs. Franklin Pierce College, 5 PM, Parkinson Gym. Women's Varsity Basketball: FSC vs. Framingham State College 7 PM, Parkinson Gym	HYPNOTIST James Mapes: Weston Auditorium, 8 PM, \$1 with College ID Men's Basketball: FSC vs. Mass. Maritime, 7:30 pm	U. S. & Mass. Constitution Exams WOMEN'S JV Basketball: FSC vs. Tufts University, 5 PM WOMEN'S VARSITY BASKETBALL: FSC vs. Salem State College, 7 PM MEN'S HOCKEY: FSC vs. Plymouth State College, 7:15	HAPPY HOUR IN THE PUB: 5-8 PM. 3 drafts for \$1	FILM: "On a Clear Day" with Barbra Streisand & Jack Nicholson. Campus Center Lecture Hall. FREE. Shows at 3:30 & 7:30 PM.
27	28	Here's what's happening				
COFFEEHOUSE: "Jim Douglas", 8 PM	Tickets on sale for the Theatre Dance Collection daily at the Info Desk... 8 AM - 4 PM.					

Black history: a tradition of achievement

By LINDA MASON

What does it mean to be free? Difficult to answer? Perhaps because by its very definition, freedom implies no restraints or limits.

However, if we take a retrospective view of history 200 years ago in our country and juxtapose a picture with our present, we can clearly see the workings of freedom in our nation.

This freedom that I speak of is racial freedom. To me this is an extremely important freedom because it can eventually lead to the brotherhood of all races, one of mankind's noblest goals.

Through the achievements of various blacks of the past; George Washington Carver, scientist; Frederick Douglass, abolitionist; and Mary McLeod

Bethune, educator, we have become a stronger nation. The achievements of blacks have been the achievement of a nation because they have served to bring us closer as a people.

During February - as we look

back upon the past and remember those blacks that are a part of our heritage - we should go forth strong, with the pride of a people that has contributed to the strength of a nation. Our goal should be to abolish those

categories of achievement that single out a race and to strive to recognize individuals for their achievements, in a nation that can claim the virtue of freedom and the foundation of brotherhood.

As we celebrate Black History Month - February - and honor those Blacks that have made various noble contributions to our society let us not limit our praise of a nation where these accomplishments were possible.

'God's children' includes you

By MARGO WALLACE

Inter-Varsity Christian Fellowship, or I.V. to its friends, is neither an intravenous feeding method nor a varsity sports club. It is a nationally sponsored organization whose purpose is to declare God's glory, as revealed in Jesus Christ, to students on campuses around the world.

Here at F.S.C., we are a group

of people who are personally devoted to Christ, to one another, and to life as a student, seeking to apply Jesus' life to our daily activities.

Living beings in varied forms, where some of our members are Resident Advisors: in apartments off-campus where three or four guys meet to discuss how to incorporate Jesus' teachings into their friendships; life in classes where nursing students endeavor to bring hope into an elderly person's poverty-hardened heart. Intramural basketball fills our schedules, firms our muscles, and provides opportunities to

relate to various types of people.

Speakers

Each Tuesday night, at 7-8:30 p.m., we meet in the basement of Thompson Hall in a lounge near the old bookstore. Speakers help us to relate issues like the absolute morality of God to the "do your own thing" attitude that prevails on campus. Songs, skits and fun, relax the body and mind after a wearying day. Special events, which will be held on certain Tuesday nights, will be publicized on campus. Tomorrow night, Feb. 15 at 7 p.m., in the Studen Union Lecture Hall, the exciting story of a Christian cop's

struggle to live his faith out on the force will be shown for free! Movies, folk singers, mountain hikes and speakers in the dorms are events that will be offered this semester.

So, if you're a student, a faculty or administration member or a mere passer-by and you're looking for God or avoiding what you think are His "laws," try I.V. It's a group, a friend, good times, challenges and a way of life in Christ.

For more information, or someone to talk to, just drop a note in one of these mailboxes: Cathy Bowman, Al Carito, Sue Schnugger, Fran Link.



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CAMPUS CENTER ADVISORY BOARD NEEDS YOUR HELP

WOULD YOU LIKE TO HAVE A DIRECT EFFECT ON WHAT HAPPENS IN THE CAMPUS CENTER? IF YOU ARE CONCERNED AND ARE A STUDENT AT F.S.C., YOU HAVE JUST MET THE PRELIMINARY QUALIFICATIONS FOR BECOMING A STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE ON THE CAMPUS CENTER ADVISORY BOARD. MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD. GIVE US YOUR IDEAS. PICK UP AN APPLICATION AND MORE INFORMATION CONCERNING THE CAMPUS CENTER ADVISORY BOARD IN THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT OFFICE, B-16, CAMPUS CENTER.

On culture

Stratton Playhouse, 60 Wallace Avenue - "Life with Father," at 8:20 p.m. Feb. 17-20 and 23-27 with a matinee Sunday, Feb. 20, at 3. Tickets are \$3.50 and can be obtained at The Camera Shop and at The Book Shop, or by calling 582-4277.

Guild Playhouse, Lunenburg Center - "Zoo Story" and "This Property is Condemned," Feb. 18 and 19 at 8 p.m. Admission will be on a donation basis.

Fitchburg Art Museum, 25 Merman Parkway - Poetry Reading featuring Mary Fell and John McGrail, Feb. 16, admission free.

Chuckle

Mary had a pair of skates,
And on the ice did frisk.
Now, wasn't that a silly thing,
Her little *?

True facts about how Valentine Day really started

For as long as I can remember my grandfather has fancied telling us an annual Valentine's story: a story that his grandfather had recollected for him and before that, legend has it, his great-grandfather's great-grandfather had actually been there when the first Valentine's Day was pronounced. Every Valentine's Day all the grandchildren sit around the mahogany table and listen to our grandfather recreate Valentine's day.

"It is said" he would start off "that your great-grandfather seven times over was, as sure as you are sitting here, was witness to the first day of Valentines. Even went to the parade! But don't let me get ahead of myself."

"It was in the spring of 1764 that Baron Von Valentines became known in the colonies and all over the world for that matter. Before him no one had ever heard of V-day. Baron Von Valentine was a big, fat, happy, ole man (but not to be confused with St. Nick) that everyone loved. He had been a farmer, a teacher and an inventor. In fact, it was he who invented the first Valentine card. Your great-grandfather seven times over saved a copy of it and it has been handed down the line to me." He reached in his pocket and pulled out a stiff yellow piece of bark-wood paper shaped like a heart and read it to us.

It read:

"Roses are red

violets are blue
and it sure is nice
when I'm sleeping with you."

"No! No! No! That's not the one!" Behind his grey whiskers we could see his face turning apply red as he dug into his shirt pocket and pulled out another piece of beat up paper. "We'll save that one for when you get a little older" he said to our blank faces. "AH here it is:

Roses are red
Violets are blue
Sugar is sweet
and so are you!

"Your great-grandfather seven times over helped him write that tricky little saying... Anyways, Mr. Von Valentine owned a chocolate factory on the outskirts of town and it seemed that everyone knew it from the deliciously sweet aroma it produced. It was even known to the King and Queen of England."

"Being a British colony at the time Von Valentine was expected to pay taxes to the Royal Crown. But Valentine was much too clever a man for the British and instead of paying his taxes with dollars he would send chocolate to the King and Queen. In return the Crown would give Von Valentine what was commonly called a Tax break. They're much more popular now a days but that's getting off

the subject a bit. So it became a sort of ritual, every year the Royal Crown would be awaiting Mr. Valentine's chocolates and every spring they would receive them. In addition, Mr. Valentine would attach little verses to the chocolate boxed, let me think, can I recall one? Oh, hes, here's one:

King and Queeny

Roses are red
Violets are not
When thou eats thy candy
Thy teeth they will rot!

The King and Queen enjoyed all of his little quips so much that they not only gave him a tax break, but they insisted on making that special day in the Spring when Mr. Von Valentine's candy came into port into a genuine Holiday. And it didn't take long before America enjoyed the fruits of Mr. Valentine's ingenuity and Mr. Valentine's Day was celebrated here too."

He took a deep gulp from his glass and then said "And that's how Valentine's Day got its name."

His story completed, I poked my little brother to wake him and he did the same to our cousins down the line until they were all awake and sitting up straight. I alone had suffered through his story for the 11th time so I could write it all out for the Rhetoric!

BOB GAGNE

Full nursing accreditation extended

The full eight-year accreditation of the nursing program at Fitchburg State College has been extended for another eight years by the National League of Nursing.

Team visit

This culmination of an intensive three-and-a-half year process by Fitchburg State's Nursing Department to revise and renew its curriculum and many other aspects of the educational program of its students is a result of the visit of the National League for Nursing Accreditation team October 12-15, 1976. At that time the College's self evaluation report was thoroughly examined during

this on-site visitation with staff, administration and students.

The announcement of the Board of Review's decision was communicated to Dr. Vincent J. Mara, President of FSC by Dr. Helen Yura, Secretary of the Board of Review for Baccalaureate and Higher Degree Programs. Thus, Fitchburg State's nursing program for its 480 undergraduate students is fully accredited for the next eight years through 1984.

Highest rank

This recognition of academic distinction at Fitchburg State accords the College the highest ranking it can attain from all the accrediting agencies which have evaluated the College in

December, 1972, upon completion of the accreditation process, the New England Association of Schools and Colleges accorded full ten-year accreditation through 1982 to all of Fitchburg State's undergraduate and graduate programs.

Ten years

In December, 1974, the National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education granted full ten year accreditation to Fitchburg State's undergraduate and graduate education programs. This official approval which is reciprocal throughout the 50 states extends through 1984.



ROMEO, ROMEO... The Residents' newest Resident guards against airborne rolls and infiltrators in the back door. (Rhetoric Photo by Paul D'Alessandro)

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BLOODMOBILE
The Red Cross bloodmobile will be at FSC Wednesday and Thursday, Feb. 23 and 24. Donors can give blood starting at 10 a.m. at Campus Center G-Lobby.

NOTICE To Contributors

The next issue of the Rhetoric will appear on Feb. 28. All copy must be submitted to the Rhetoric office no later than Feb. 18.

Stratton Players to do 'Life With Father'

By BEVERLY CRONIN
One of the longest-running Broadway hits, "Life with Father," will be presented by the Stratton Players premiering Feb. 17.
This classic American comedy, which opened in New York City in 1939, tells the tender, funny story of Father and Mother Day and their four sons. The play, by

Howard Lindsay and Russell Crouse, is based on the beloved sketches which Clarence Day wrote about his own roaring, but affectionate father, fragile but firm minded mother and the family they raised.
"Life with Father" recalls a leisured pattern of family life of a past generation that is fast disappearing. However, the

appeal is more than simply a nostalgic one. Every mother, father, and child recognizes in each character a part of themselves and each other.
Stratton Players
The Stratton Players are a heterogeneous group whose one main interest and strongest unifying element is their mutual interest and love of theater.
Doctors, teachers, secretaries, and plumbers are some of the professions represented in the company which has about 30 members. Anyone over 18-years-

A short story of high purpose

"Sad, you say. Oh, very much so. Drug abuse has to be one of society's greatest tragedies."
Yes, I was talking to a friend of mine just the other day. The poor chap was telling me that he has a brother who is a "pothead." The above quotation was his.
My friend was depressed. The evening before, his brother had not returned home by 7 a.m. the following morning. Naturally, he was concerned as were his parents.
Certain his brother was with a particular group of friends, he ventured over to their "pad" shortly after 7:30 a.m. that same morning. To his pound on the maple door came a surprised and attractive girl. "Who? she innocently asked. Finally, her bedroom companion told him that his brother was probably staying three houses down the street in a second-floor apartment.
Walking amidst an unshoveled walk, my friend was disgusted with his brother - a high school dropout. He banged on a

Know your Constitutions

All graduates of Fitchburg State College, must according to state law, demonstrate a knowledge of the United States and Massachusetts Constitutions.
Students may meet the requirement by taking any one of the following courses: HI 21, 22, PS 10, 20, 22. Or the requirement may be met by taking an examination administered by the Social Science Department.
Materials for study are available in the College Bookstore. These pertain mainly to the Massachusetts constitution which is a long and complex document in its official form. You will find the edited version far easier to use and much less lengthy, for it leaves out the superseded material and arranges amendments in logical order following the pattern of the original eighteenth-century document.
The United States Constitution is a much less lengthy document and may easily be found in the college library or in any one of numerous paperback editions. The best brief guide to the federal constitution is Corwin and Peltason's Understanding the Constitution.
This semester the Constitution examination will be given twice: February 24 and April 14, both at 1:10 p.m. at Weston Auditorium.

A Rhetoric Preview

old with an interest in theater is welcome to join. Three different plays are performed annually with an alternation of cast for each production.
Each part for every play is picked with the consideration of "who will best fit this part?" This type of casting certainly contributes to the development of more interesting and credible characters.
The Stratton Playhouse, 60 Wallace Avenue, Fitchburg, is one of the oldest little theaters in the country. This comfortable 96 seat theater is currently celebrating its fifty-first year of continuous performances.
-Performances
Performances of "Life with Father", directed by Miriam Lehto, are set for Feb. 17-20 and 23-26 at 8:20 p.m. at the playhouse with a 3 p.m. Sunday matinee. Tickets are \$3.50 and can be purchased at the Book Shop on Main Street, Fitchburg, or the Camera Shop on John Fitch Highway, Fitchburg or by calling 582-4277. Group rates are available.

Did you see the one about ...

- MOVIE REVIEW
- The Man Who Fell from Grace With the Sea ... Elizabeth Taylor plays the role of Grace
The Man Who Fell to Earth ... A tree surgeon falls out of a patient
The Man Who Fell ... Jerry Ford tries to walk and chew gum simultaneously
Day of the Dull Finn ... One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest in Lapland
Uncle Tom's Cabin ... Ella Fitzgerald plays title roll (the cabin)
Take the Money and Run ... Spiro T. Agnew
The Front ... Raquel Welch
- DOUBLE FEATURE (Actual)
- How Funny Can Sex Be? ... Where Does it Hurt?
Valley of the Dolls ... Cosmopolitan cover spaniel
Welsh Rabbit ... Product of V.W. plant in Cardiff
Moby Dick ... A classic about wales
King Kong ... You Always Hurt the One you Love
Welsh Rabbit ... Raquel Welch
Welsh Rabbit ... John Birch society has wild hare
Welched rabbit ... Waiter, there's a hare in my grape juice or vice versa
Pervert ... One who likes his vices versa
Vices versa ... Turnabout is fair play
Raquel Welch ... aka Virginia Rounds
A Star is Born ... Belle Starr aka Ringo Starr
Twiggy ... aka Virginia Slims

Fix your gaze on James Mapes

Do you want to be mystified, tantalized and hypnotized? Is the hand really quicker than the eye?
You can find the answer to these questions on Wednesday, Feb. 23 at 7:30 p.m. in Weston Auditorium.
James Mapes, a world-renowned hypnotist, seen frequently on the Merv Griffin show, is coming to Fitchburg State.
For a modest price of \$1.00, you can wonder at the hypnotic wonderments which he will perform for over 2 hours.
Tickets will be on sale, beginning Valentine's Day, until Feb. 23, at the Campus Center Info Desk. Please bring your I.D.



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Have You Gotten Your Student Buying Power Card Yet? The Card Allows Discounts At Certain Stores In Fitchburg. Don't Spend Another Cent Without It!!
Get Your Student Buying Power Card At The S.G.A. Office Now! It's Free!!!!

Movies Concerts Pub Coffee-House Theatre --- Programs Committee!!!!!!

WANTED:
Any FSC student, or faculty member with ideas and ambition.

EXPERIENCE NEEDED:
None

NEEDED WHEN:
Immediately! In trying to re-construct the Programs Committee, people are needed to help run this semesters already scheduled events, and help with planning Fall 1977's events.

APPLICATIONS: Please leave your name, interest and box number in box 3395.

PROGRAMS COMMITTEE NEEDS YOUR HELP AND INTEREST --

Critic pans 'Dolphin'

By BERNIE SCHULTZ

Combining James Bond-type movie action with Walt Disney's stereotyping, "Day of the Dolphin" is a perfectly inept movie. One ponders a suitable title change: "Bluefinger" or "Phar, The Talking Dolphin."

On Wednesday, Feb. 2, 1977, "Day of the Dolphin" was shown "freely" in the Campus Center Lecture Hall. The student attendance was excellent. Yet the movie itself was anything but an excellent production.

Billed as "a dolphin trained to kill the President," I expected the movie to somehow weave this theme into its plot. Instead, the assassination attempt aimed at the President of the United States was vaguely presented. It seemed minor and insignificant. Even Alpha, the talking dolphin, did not speak distinctly about it.

As usual, George C. Scott did a fine acting job. However, his stereotyped role gave the audience easily predictable lines. His darling wife, Trish VanDevere, played the strong, silent type. She had no important lines yet co-starred.

Lines like "he (the dolphin) bit me because he wanted me to stay in the water" or "when we become friends, I'll even tell you things about yourself that will astound you" were disgustingly absurd. Indeed, they were simultaneously funny and sad.

Dr. Jake Terrell (George C. Scott) stated during the movie that a dolphin has a brain comparable to man's. If so, what were the dolphins doing taking part in such a ghastly flick.

Announcement

The Student Government Association Scholarship Committee is now accepting applications for scholarship awards. Three (3) one hundred dollar (\$100) scholarships and two (2) two hundred dollar (\$200) scholarships will be awarded. Applicants must be an upcoming sophomore, junior, or senior planning to continue their education at Fitchburg State College for the coming school year (1977-1978); have at least a 2.2 cumulative average; and must promote leadership. Interested students must fill out an application which is available in the SGA office before 3:00 p.m. on Friday, March 25, 1977.

For the record

Last issue, the RHETORIC did not mention the fine job done by the Campus Center Pub Staff during Apathy Weekend. For this, we apologize. Rick, Scott, Jim, Jason, and the rest of the crew are to be commended for their efforts.

Financial aid information

The following information on financial aid has been issued by William H. Fitzgibbon, acting dean of students:

1977-1978 renewal candidates MUST SUBMIT ONLY a 1977-1978 Parents' Confidential Statement or Financial Aid Form (Replaces Student Financial Statement) to College Scholarship Service with "Massachusetts State Scholarship Program - 0558" indicated on the Parents' Confidential Statement or Financial Aid Form. To be submitted by April 1, 1977. No renewal card applications will be used for 1977-78.

PCSs (Parents' Confidential Statement) and FAFs (Financial Aid Form) of new upperclass candidates should be submitted to College Scholarship Service by February 15. The FAF must be used by students who are married, separated, divorced, widowed or orphaned; and the FAF must be used by any single student claiming to be independent. A single student under the age of 25 must attach to the FAF a notarized parental statement that the parents are not claiming the student as a federal tax exemption on the parents' 1976 and 1977 federal income tax returns. Such notarized statements must NOT be sent to the Commonwealth of

Massachusetts but must be included with the FAF, so that such statements will be part of the FAF when they read and process FAFs.

Opportunity Grants

All undergraduate students who will need financial assistance for 1977-78 are expected, both by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and by this college to apply for a 1977-78 Federal BEOG.

Applications are being sent to every 1976-1977 applicant who had been determined eligible to receive a Basic Grant.

Kindly be on the watch, or alert your family, to watch for this form, as the Financial Aid Office has a limited supply of the applications.

All necessary information for the completion and mailing of the Basic Grant application is contained in the instructions.



ATTENTION SENIORS

CAP & GOWN

Measurements will be

DATE - Feb. 16 - 17 - 18

TIME - 10 A.M. - 2 P.M.

LOCATION - College

Bookstore


FEE to be collected at the time

Apartments

APARTMENT — Unfurnished heated 3 bedroom apartment, use of washer, dryer and garage. 342-6995. Vano Johnson, 84 Mt. Vernon Street, Fitchburg.

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